



# Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure  
Report for 16 September 2010

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:  
<http://www.dhs.gov>

## Top Stories

- According to Associated Press, an explosion and flash fire September 14 at a plant in Toone, Tennessee that makes flares for the military injured six people, three of them critically, authorities said. (See item [15](#))
- KXTV 10 reports that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers September 14 announced inspection results that found 10 levee systems in the Sacramento, California area were minimally acceptable or unacceptable, and rife with problems, ranging from erosion to encroachments. (See item [61](#))

---

## Fast Jump Menu

### PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

### SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

### SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

### FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

---

## Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED,**  
**Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 15, Tulsa World* – (Texas) **Fuel leak on Explorer Pipeline-operated line stopped.** A diesel fuel leak in Houston, Texas from a 16-inch pipeline operated by Explorer Pipeline Co. has been stopped and is being cleaned up, the Tulsa, Oklahoma-based company's top executive said September 14. The inactive pipeline sprung a leak September 13 at an East Houston tank farm, the CEO of Explorer told the Tulsa World.

About 140 barrels of diesel fuel were released into the tank dike area of the farm. “It was a shut-in piece of pipe, the valves were closed so there was no flow through the pipe,” he said. “We started picking it up with vacuum trucks yesterday” and got all of the standing fuel removed by 10 p.m. Monday.

Source:

[http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?subjectid=49&articleid=20100915\\_49\\_E1\\_Adiese493817](http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?subjectid=49&articleid=20100915_49_E1_Adiese493817)

2. *September 14, KWQC 6 Davenport* – (Iowa) **Gas leak forces Davenport hotel evacuation.** About 30 residents at LaQuinta Inn at 3330 E. Kimberly in Davenport, Iowa are back inside after a gas leak prompted an evacuation around 7 a.m. September 14. The district fire chief with the Davenport Fire Department told TV6 there was a gas leak coming from a distribution center operated by Mid-American Energy. It sits behind the hotel. He said the gas line relief valve was spewing a lot of natural gas. “It was functioning properly, releasing gas, but it’s located close to the hotel. We were concerned about natural gas migrating into the building causing a problem,” he said. Fire crews and utility crews tested gas levels and determined that gas did not migrate into the hotel, and guests were allowed to return.

Source: <http://www.kwqc.com/Global/story.asp?S=13149464>

3. *September 14, USA TODAY* – (Michigan) **Michigan oil pipeline defects went unrepaired.** Three times in the past 5 years, inspectors found defects in the southern Michigan pipeline that ruptured and sent thousands of gallons of crude oil into a tributary of the Kalamazoo River in July, according to documents obtained by the Detroit Free Press. A Free Press analysis of inspection records, accident reports and other documentation involving Enbridge’s Midwest Lakehead System suggest it’s not always the defects eating deepest into the lines that cause the biggest problems. On at least three occasions — including the July rupture of Line 6B near Marshall, Michigan — defects considered too small to warrant reporting or repair were found at sites where breaks later occurred, in some cases with tragic results. Cracks were found in Line 4 near Cohasset, Minnesota, years before a break in 2002 there that released 6,000 barrels or 252,000 gallons of oil.

Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4496698>

4. *September 14, Reuters* – (International) **Trio of storms swirls in Atlantic and Caribbean.** A trio of potentially dangerous storms swirled over the Atlantic Ocean September 14, as Tropical Storm Karl formed in the Caribbean on a path that could take it over oil-production facilities in Mexico’s Bay of Campeche. The threat posed by Karl, which forecasters said will enter the oil-rich Gulf of Mexico, came as Tropical Storm Julia grew in the far eastern Atlantic into the fifth hurricane of the Atlantic storm season and Hurricane Igor remained a dangerous Category 4 storm. Neither hurricane posed an immediate threat to land or energy interests, but Igor could threaten Bermuda by the weekend. Karl, located about 230 miles east of Chetumal, Mexico, had maximum sustained winds of about 45 miles per hour the afternoon of September 14, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said. The 11th named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season was expected to churn west-northwest across Mexico’s Yucatan

Peninsula September 15 and then plow into the Bay of Campeche in the southwest Gulf of Mexico before moving inland in central Mexico.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE68C0I020100915>

5. *September 13, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Miners’ notes warned of explosive dust.** Several places in a West Virginia coal mine needed a coating of pulverized stone to cover explosive coal dust shortly before an explosion killed 29 miners in April, according to copies of handwritten logs obtained by the Associated Press. The logs portray Massey Energy’s Upper Big Branch mine in Montcoal as a troubled operation that routinely had dangerous coatings of coal dust — the raw material for a deadly blast. The problem persisted April 5, the day of the worst U.S. coal mine explosion in 40 years. As a miner was wrapping up work, he phoned a colleague on the surface with the ominous if relatively routine report about dust. Investigators suspect the explosion began with methane, then fed on coal dust as it turned 90-degree corners, rounded a 1,000-foot-wide block of coal, and built enough force to kill men more than a mile away. The information he and his co-workers recorded in the hours, weeks, and months before the disaster shows it struck in what could be considered a predictable place: a mine with a chronic, stubborn coating of coal dust, which can make a minor flare-up significantly worse.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2010/09/13/west\\_virginia\\_miners\\_notes\\_warned\\_of\\_explosive\\_dust/](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2010/09/13/west_virginia_miners_notes_warned_of_explosive_dust/)

6. *September 13, Merced Sun-Star* – (California) **Three arrested after air compressor stolen from Snelling power plant.** Three people were arrested September 12 near Snelling, California after allegedly trying to steal an air compressor from a power plant. The incident was reported around noon in the 18000 block of Highway 59. Police deputies were en route in response to a possible theft report when they learned two California Department of Fish and Game officers had stopped a suspicious vehicle, said the deputy sheriff’s spokesman. When the deputies arrived, three Modesto residents were seated in a 1991 white Chevy van, pulling an air compressor. Fish and game officers were alerted by a fisherman who had noticed odd activity by the facility. The compressor had been taken from behind several locked gates at the plant. The initials “TID” (for Turlock Irrigation District) had been painted over in fresh white paint, but letters were still visible, authorities said.

Source: <http://www.mercedsunstar.com/2010/09/13/1567966/three-arrested-after-air-compressor.html>

For another story, see item [21](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

7. *September 15, Associated Press* – (New York) **Chemical leak closes I-84 entrance ramp in NY.** An entrance ramp on a suburban interstate highway north of New York

City was still closed early September 15 after chemicals began leaking from a truck September 14. State police said that Putnam County, New York, emergency dispatchers received a call around 11 p.m. September 14 reporting chemicals leaking from a 53-foot box trailer. It was pulled over on the westbound Interstate 84 entrance ramp at Exit 18 near the Kent-Patterson town line. Troopers said the truck was hauling acrylic acid and sodium carbonate that had mixed inside the trailer and spilled onto the pavement. Police said the truck was also carrying hydrogen peroxide and aluminum oxide powder. Police closed the westbound entrance ramp from Route 311 to I-84. A hazardous materials crew is on the scene. Police said the truck's contents have to be unloaded before the vehicle can be moved.

Source: <http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=13156404>

8. *September 15, Cary News* – (North Carolina) **Explosion leads to evacuation.** An explosion at Natland International, a chemical company in Cary, North Carolina, September 9 forced the evacuation of a building but did not cause any injuries, according to officials. About 50 people were evacuated from the building, according to the Cary Fire Department. The explosion occurred while an employee was mixing chemical compounds including trimethyl fluoro sulfuric anhydride, sodium nitride and water. Damage appeared to be limited to ceiling tiles and lab cabinets, fire officials said. The administrator for Home Paramount Pest Control said she was standing outside the Natland office when she felt the explosion and heard a loud boom. Home Paramount Pest is located two suites down from Natland. Natland may be held responsible for emergency response costs, town officials said.  
Source: <http://www.carynews.com/2010/09/15/20451/explosion-leads-to-evacuation.html>

9. *September 15, Dickinson Press* – (North Dakota) **No injuries from acid leak.** No one was injured September 14 when a semi hauling hydrochloric acid overturned on Interstate 94 Exit 64 in Dickinson, North Dakota, though leaking acid ate a hole through the side of the aluminum trailer, officials said. A 30-year-old man of New Salem was carrying more than 2,100 gallons of the diluted chemical in a Midwest Motor Express truck, according to the Dickinson Fire Department. He was on the westbound ramp in east Dickinson at about 9:30 a.m. when the truck overturned, Dickinson's fire chief said. The acid was in liquid form in seven containers in the truck. One was damaged when the truck overturned and the chemical leaked out and some vaporized. Between 160 and 165 gallons, or about half the contents of the tank, leaked out. Authorities stopped traffic on Interstate 94 for about 10 minutes. The on and off ramps of Exit 64 were closed until mid-afternoon.  
Source: <http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/39680/>

10. *September 15, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (California; Arizona; Nevada) **EPA judge levies nation's largest pesticide fine on '99¢ Only Stores'.** A federal judge has ordered "99¢ Only Stores" to pay \$409,490 in penalties for the sale of illegal unregistered and misbranded pesticides contained in household products in its stores in California, Arizona, and Nevada. The case against Commerce, California-based 99¢ Only Stores concerned the sale of three cleaning and pest control products.

Out of a total of 166 violations — discovered during inspections from 2004 to 2008 — 164 involved the sale of a household cleaner called “Bref Limpieza y Desinfección Total con Densiclolor.” [Bref Complete Cleaning and Disinfection with Densiclolor®], which was not registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), despite pesticidal claims on the label. The product was imported from Mexico and made statements in Spanish that it disinfects or sanitizes surfaces. The other two products involved were “Farmer’s Secret Berry & Produce Cleaner,” an unregistered pesticide, and “PiC BORIC ACID Roach Killer III,” which was misbranded because EPA-approved labels were upside-down or inside out, making them hard to read. The fine is the largest contested penalty ever ordered by an EPA administrative law judge against a product retailer under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/3B92CB417CA584BA8525779900747A34>

11. *September 15, WFIE 14 Evansville* – (Indiana) **One arrest, one escape in suspected anhydrous ammonia theft.** An Evansville, Indiana man was arrested September 14 after law enforcement officers said he tried to steal anhydrous ammonia from the Mackey Co-Op on SR 57 in Mackey. An Oakland City police officer was called after a report of two suspicious people in the area of the tanks, which are located on the south side of the property. After spotting two small metal containers containing anhydrous ammonia, the officer arrested a 50-year-old suspect. The other man fled the scene. Assisting officers, including a K-9 unit from Vanderburgh County, were unable to locate the second suspect.

Source: <http://www.wfie.com/Global/story.asp?S=13156690>

For another story, see item [29](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector**

12. *September 15, Brattleboro Reformer* – (Vermont) **Report raps VY on worker safety.** The results from an audit by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) state that although Vermont Yankee (VY) met all safety regulations, there were problems with the Vernon, Vermont nuclear plant’s implementation of regulatory commitments. A NRC spokesman said a three-year audit August 9 and 10, consisted of two major parts, including looking at the verification of Entergy’s implementation of commitments to the NRC that have been completed, and verifying the company’s program for managing changes to commitments. He said Entergy took too long to address radiation safety concerns for its workers. “They were relying on a fleet-wide procedure that took longer than expected,” the spokesman said. The NRC found VY’s entries into the Commitment Management System were not created in a timely manner. “A general observation was made of a process weakness in meeting implementation dates and entering (Commitment Management System) entries for each docketed site for commitments made at the fleet level,” the report stated. Although there were no issues that were identified as needing enforcement, the spokesman said Entergy must

be proactive.

Source: [http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci\\_16077327](http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_16077327)

13. *September 15, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Va uranium study panel to hold 1st meetings.** A committee studying uranium mining in Virginia will hold its first three meetings in Washington, D.C., and the Danville, Virginia area. The Danville Register & Bee reports that the Danville area meeting is scheduled for December 13-15. The Washington meetings are set for October 26-27 and November 15-16 at the Keck Center. The study will examine the scientific, technical, environmental and human health risks of uranium mining, milling and processing in Virginia. Its findings are due in 2011. Virginia has had a moratorium on uranium mining since 1982. Before uranium can be mined in Virginia, the state's general assembly would have to lift the ban.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/local/ap/va-uranium-study-panel-to-hold-1st-meetings-102947344.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

14. *September 13, Merced Sun-Star* – (California) **Modesto man arrested in Delhi after gold stolen from factory.** A 39-year-old Modesto, California, man was arrested in Delhi, California September 9 on suspicion of stealing \$10,000 in gold and gold dust from a Stanislaus County processing plant. The suspect had an outstanding felony warrant for his arrest. Inside the house, detectives found several items which appeared to have been stolen from the plant, in addition to items used to collect gold dust.  
Source: <http://www.mercedsunstar.com/2010/09/13/1567530/modesto-man-arrested-in-delhi.html#ixzz0zbuQGnvf>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

15. *September 14, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **6 injured in explosion at Tenn. flare plant.** An explosion and flash fire September 14 at a plant in Toone, Tennessee that makes flares for the military injured six people, three of them critically, authorities said. The explosion at Kilgore Flares Co. was reported just before noon. A Memphis hospital reported that three people were brought there in critical condition and a smaller hospital in Bolivar reported that three people there were in good condition. The fire apparently was contained to one building, which was heavily damaged. The company Web site said Kilgore supplies infrared decoy flares to counter the threat of guided missiles. The company announced earlier this year a \$22.5 million Department of Defense order for flares for B-52 aircraft. A worker at the Kilgore plant was killed during a flash fire and explosion in April 2001.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/14/AR2010091403744.html?hpid=moreheadlines>



16. *September 14, CongressDaily* – (National) **Nuclear program has Air Force both worried and hopeful.** The commander of the U.S. Strategic Command expressed concern September 13 over several aspects of nuclear deterrent capabilities but praised the Nuclear Posture Review and the Administration's fiscal 2011 budget that requested a substantial funding increase to upgrade nuclear weapons facilities and modernize and sustain the weapons stockpile. An Air Force general also gave a strong endorsement of the New START arms control treaty, calling it a "strategy-based approach" to which his command contributed. Earlier in the day at the Air Force Association's conference at the National Harbor convention center in Maryland, a number of senior Air Force officers in nuclear deterrent commands noted the improvements made in the last 2 years to re-establish high standards of security and performance, and to start improvements in the aged nuclear weapons arsenal. In addressing the challenges to nuclear deterrence, the general warned that the critical capability to warn of a possible nuclear attack is eroding because of the continued failure of the Space Based Infrared missile launch warning system. He noted that he protested the lack of the SBIRS network of satellites in 2008 and 2009 and was assured both times that launch of the first satellites was imminent. But the program remains trapped in technical problems and threatened by massive cost overruns.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0910/091410cdam1.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

17. *September 15, Bloomberg* – (National) **JPMorgan web site fails again, late fees to be waived.** JPMorgan Chase & Co., whose Web site failed September 15, the second failure this week, will refund late fees and help fix other problems for 16.6 million online customers unable to access their accounts. The site went down late September 13 and service was restored around 1 a.m. New York time September 15. The system failed again several hours later. The problem is a software glitch and customers' accounts aren't at risk, a company spokeswoman, said in an interview. Customers trying to use the site see an error message that reads, "Our website is temporarily unavailable. We're working quickly to restore access." The bank's primary regulator in Washington D.C. was on alert when the service failed the first time. "We monitored this situation very closely," a spokesman for the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency said. JPMorgan's active online customers have increased by an average annual rate of 42 percent since 2006, according to a September 14 presentation to investors by the firm's chief executive officer. More than 3.7 million households use JPMorgan's online Web site to pay their bills. "Online customers should contact Chase telephone banking ... or visit a branch to correct late fees that were incurred during the outage," a company spokeswoman said in an e-mail. JPMorgan will also refund late fees charged by other institutions, she said. The length of the outage raises operational risk and internal control issues for the bank, which was the only major Wall Street firm to make it through the financial crisis without posting quarterly losses, said a former analyst for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and co-founder of Institutional Risk Analytics in Torrance, California. "These systems are big and complex, but they should

have redundancy to take the 'A' system offline if need be for hours at least," he said.  
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-09-15/jpmorgan-web-site-fails-again-late-fees-to-be-waived.html>

18. *September 15, Agence Press France* – (International) **N. Ireland dissidents threaten to attack bankers.** A dissident republican terror group in Northern Ireland threatened September 15 to target banks and bankers as it seeks to destabilize the peace process, in comments to a newspaper. The Real IRA launched a tirade at financial institutions in Great Britain's "colonial and capitalist" system, which it accused of leaving millions of victims, in remarks to Britain's Guardian daily. The threat is the latest attempt by the group, that formed after breaking away from the Provisional IRA when the latter was engaging in peace talks, to undermine British rule of the province. "We have a track record of attacking high-profile economic targets and financial institutions such as the City of London," said the group's leaders in a series of written responses to the paper. "The role of bankers and the institutions they serve in financing Britain's colonial and capitalist system has not gone unnoticed. Let's not forget that the bankers are the next-door neighbors of the politicians." But security sources in the British province played down the threat. They stressed that the Real IRA lacks the logistical resources of the Provisional IRA to carry out a bombing campaign similar to the ones that hit the London in the early 1990s.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gReAESVZrzOSfgN0Jt0u29YCpfxA>

19. *September 14, Reuters* – (National) **N.J. woman pleads guilty in \$45 million Ponzi scheme.** On September 14, a New Jersey woman pleaded guilty to running a \$45 million Ponzi scheme in which she promised to invest money in real estate, but instead gambled some of it at casinos. Federal prosecutors said the 58-year-old suspect pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy before a U.S. magistrate judge in federal court in Manhattan, New York. She had been charged in June. She is expected to be sentenced to between 51 and 63 months in prison, and fined as much as \$1 million. The Montclair resident also agreed to forfeit \$5 million, her stake in 24 properties she bought as part of the scheme, and a Dunkin' Donuts franchise in Arizona, prosecutors said. Prosecutors accused the suspect of soliciting \$45 million from more than 20 New York and New Jersey investors between 2006 and December 2009, promising to use the money to buy or renovate residential real estate properties for eventual resale. They said she instead spent only \$6 million on real estate, and used most of the rest to repay earlier investors.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE68D4T320100914>

20. *September 14, Biloxi-Gulfport Sun Herald* – (Mississippi) **Hancock Bank employee indicted on fraud charge.** A third Hancock Bank employee has been indicted on federal charges of bank fraud, this time accused of executing a scheme to defraud the bank of an undisclosed amount of money at the Petal, Mississippi branch, according to federal court records. The suspect was indicted in January, though all of the details in the original indictment remain under seal. In the redacted indictment, she is accused of



stealing from the bank between July 31, 2006, and June 24, 2009. She has pleaded guilty. The suspect was a financial services associate. She's been fired and is free on a \$25,000 unsecured bond. Her sentencing, initially set for July 15, was postponed after the government filed a motion saying Hancock officials have since discovered what appears to be "additional fraud" involving the suspect. She is now the third former Hancock employee indicted on fraud charges. In an unrelated case, the former branch operations manager at Hancock's Ocean Springs main branch, and a former bank teller there, have pleaded guilty in a scheme to steal more than \$2 million over more than 20 years, ending in July 2009. The thefts in that case started around 1982, when the pair started working side-by-side as tellers. The two, along with two other unnamed co-conspirators, reportedly stole money from the accounts of elderly people they had befriended. An independent audit showed \$2,386,451.84 stolen from customer accounts between 1995 and July 2009. There were no records before 1995, so the amount embezzled from early 1980 to 1995 is unknown. All 44 of the victims were between the ages of 71 and 102.

Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/2010/09/14/2477279/hancock-bank-employee-indicted.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Transportation Sector**

21. *September 15, Reno Gazette-Journal* – (Nevada) **Casinos, homes, airport lose power.** Power was out for up to 4 hours September 15 for the Reno-Tahoe International Airport in Reno, Nevada, and homes and businesses stretching from the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino to John Ascuagas Nugget hotel. The airport switched to backup power, and passengers still landed and took off, an airport spokesman said. The outage started at 10:30 a.m. because of a line or switch problem at the Glendale substation, a Nevada Energy spokeswoman said. While trying to energize an inoperative power line, Nevada Energy crews ended up knocking out two other power lines, slightly extending the boundaries of the outage. It was not clear how many homes and businesses were affected. Nevada Energy restored power to the Nugget, then to the residential areas, then the Grand Sierra and finally the airport, she said.

Source: <http://www.rgj.com/article/20100915/NEWS/9150416/1321>

22. *September 15, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Metro, Gallery Place red line reopens.** The Red Line train at Gallery Place and Metro Center stations reopened in Washington, D.C., but delays continued after a trash fire led to heavy smoke at Gallery Place about 10 a.m. September 15. The Green and Yellow lines were operating normally, and the Blue and Orange Line was still servicing Metro Center. Smoking debris in a ventilation shaft was the source of the problem, the agency said in a statement.

Source: [http://voices.washingtonpost.com/dr-gridlock/2010/09/red\\_line\\_delays\\_at\\_gallery\\_pla.html](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/dr-gridlock/2010/09/red_line_delays_at_gallery_pla.html)

23. *September 14, Brownsville Herald* – (International; Texas) **Violence’s proximity puts Brownsville on alert.** Shootouts that began the night of September 13 in Matamoros, Mexico, apparently have killed 25 or more members of organized crime, and two bridges to Brownsville, Texas were closed for 20 minutes September 14 at the request of Mexican authorities. The violence continued sporadically the next day between the Mexican military and groups of gunmen from both the Gulf Cartel and the Zetas, said a Mexican law enforcement official. He said the violence had started in Ciudad Victoria and spread north from there. Shootouts were reported in various areas in Matamoros, with gunmen at times spraying the streets with gunfire and throwing grenades. A U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokesman confirmed that as a result of an incident in Matamoros — and at the request of the Mexican government — traffic was halted some time after midnight September 13 on both the Gateway and B&M international bridges. The closures lasted about 20 minutes and were described as a precautionary measure. A Brownsville, Texas police spokesman said his department also continues to monitor the situation in Mexico and if necessary would implement emergency plans — already in place — if it were believed that an incident in Mexico had the potential to move across the border.

Source: <http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/proximity-116792-alert-puts.html>

24. *September 14, Inland News Today* – (California) **Fontana train crash probed.** It may be several weeks before the cause of a September 9 train collision in Fontana, California is known. One freight train was backing up during a switching operation, and the other was leaving Union Pacific’s (UP) classification yards enroute to Los Angeles. A UP spokesman said a signal malfunction is among the possible causes. “We’ll also be examining the data from the onboard computers. We’ll be getting statements from the train crews that were involved.” The conductor of the westbound freight is in stable condition after surgery for an amputated arm. An engineer escaped with minor injuries. The crash derailed two locomotives and 11 rail cars loaded with metal piping.

Source: <http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=15936>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [3](#), [7](#), [9](#), and [28](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

25. *September 15, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Tighter curbs expected on lithium batteries.** Federal officials are poised to substantially tighten restrictions on transporting lithium batteries in U.S. cargo planes, according to people familiar with the details, after an apparent cargo fire resulted in the crash of a United Parcel Service Inc. jet in Dubai. The move, which would affect nearly all U.S. cargo carriers, could also force manufacturers and distributors of consumer electronics to alter their packaging and documentation procedures. Lithium batteries are used in a wide array of electronic devices, such as cell phones and laptop computers. The urgency of the new restrictions, which people familiar with the matter expect to be announced shortly,

appear to be a response to signs that lithium batteries may have stoked the intense fire and dense smoke that filled the cockpit of the UPS Boeing 747 jumbo jet before it went down September 3, while trying to return to Dubai International Airport. Both pilots died in the accident, which has revived debate over the fire hazards of lithium batteries. They can burn intensely, and once on fire can be particularly difficult to extinguish. By requiring special packaging and other safeguards for lithium batteries and products containing them, the new restrictions would resolve long-running disputes between some airline-industry officials and pilot groups over the dangers posed by such cargo. It will likely be increasingly difficult to ship large volumes of batteries, by themselves, on a single plane, according to the people familiar with the details.

Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704285104575492212976583750.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704285104575492212976583750.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

26. *September 14, Associated Press* – (International) **3 embassies in Israel receive suspicious letters.** Israeli police said envelopes containing a suspicious white powder have been discovered at the American, Spanish and Swedish embassies in Tel Aviv. A police spokesman said workers at the three embassies alerted police after opening the envelopes September 14. The spokesman said the exact nature of the substance is still unclear. But he said police have said the substance was not poisonous since no one was hurt. Police are trying to find who sent the envelopes and determine whether the incidents were connected.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/09/14/world/AP-ML-Israel-Suspicious-Letters.html?\\_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss](http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/09/14/world/AP-ML-Israel-Suspicious-Letters.html?_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

27. *September 15, Associated Press* – (Iowa; National) **Investigators say egg company knew of salmonella.** Congressional investigators said Wright County Egg, the Iowa egg farm at the center of a massive salmonella outbreak, received hundreds of positive results for salmonella in the 2 years before its eggs sickened more than 1,500 people. In a letter September 14 to the company's owner, the House Energy and Commerce Committee said that investigators have obtained records showing that the company received 426 positive results for salmonella between 2008 and 2010. The committee said those results include 73 samples that were potentially positive for Salmonella Enteritidis, the strain responsible for the recent outbreak. The owner of Wright County Egg is scheduled to testify before the committee the week of September 20.

Source: [http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/health/Tainted-Eggs\\_51881005-wxyz1284552834186](http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/health/Tainted-Eggs_51881005-wxyz1284552834186)

28. *September 15, Logan Herald Journal* – (Utah) **Semi explodes after crashing on SR165.** A semi truck carrying bananas exploded at about 6:30 p.m. September 14 in Logan Utah, disrupting traffic but causing no major injuries. Witnesses said the semi was traveling north on State Road 165 in Utah when the driver ran a red light, causing

his truck to hit several vehicles and a power pole before flipping over and catching on fire from its own leaking diesel fuel. According to a lieutenant of the Utah Highway Patrol, the crash involved a total of eight vehicles and 14 people. Two individuals were transported by ambulance to Logan Regional Hospital with minor injuries, including the semi driver, who got out of the truck before the explosion. Power was out in the area and traffic was restricted for several hours, with the road closure extending from the intersection near Maverik to the “Y” at about 800 S. Main St. in Logan. Clean-up efforts were expected to last through the night, requiring a hazardous materials team to dispose of the leaked diesel. In total, three law enforcement agencies and two fire departments responded with highway patrol taking the lead because the accident began on Providence’s side of the border with Logan.

Source: [http://news.hjnews.com/news/article\\_84347caa-c06a-11df-bdb9-001cc4c03286.html](http://news.hjnews.com/news/article_84347caa-c06a-11df-bdb9-001cc4c03286.html)

29. *September 14, KFSM 5 Fayetteville* – (Arkansas) **Ammonia leak causes evacuation at cold storage facility in Lowell.** A small ammonia leak caused the Zero Mountain Cold Storage facility in Lowell, Arkansas, to be evacuated September 14. The Rogers and Lowell Fire Departments, as well as a haz-mat crew were called to the leak around 1 p.m. According to an official with the company, a maintenance man was using a forklift and accidentally hit an ammonia line in the engine room. Liquid ammonia gushed out, all over the floor. The ammonia leaked out to the ventilation system. The fire department thought about sending out a reverse 911 call to homes and businesses in the area warning them about the leak but decided there was not enough ammonia to pose a real health risk. Employees were able to evacuate the 300,000-square-foot facility within 90 seconds. A spokeswoman with Zero Mountain said the employees have done many drills to prepare for situations like this and their training paid off. Just after 3 p.m., employees were able to return to work. No one was injured.

Source: <http://www.kfsm.com/news/kfsm-news-lowell-ammonia-leak-report,0,6926562.story>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Water Sector**

30. *September 15, TWEAN 8 Austin* – (Texas) **Round Rock crews contain wastewater leak.** Crews in Round Rock, Texas, said September 13 they have found another wastewater leak as a result of last week’s flooding. They have contained a leak that spewed 300,000 gallons of sewage per day into Lake Creek. Round Rock engineers estimate as much as 3 million gallons of sewage per minutes was rushing into the creek September 3. That week, two other spills were found in Travis County. Two lift stations failed, causing wastewater to flow into Bull and Lake Creeks. In all three cases, officials said the drinking water is safe. They said the spill is diluted by heavy storm-water flows. Samples are still being taken from the creek to determine if there is significant bacterial contamination.

Source: <http://www.news8austin.com/content/headlines/274090/flooding-causes-sewage-leak-in-round-rock>

31. *September 15, WXYZ 7 Detroit* – (Michigan) **Water main breaks in three cities.** A power outage could be to blame for water main breaks in three cities in Michigan. Crews are cleaning up from eight water main breaks in Madison Heights, three in Sterling Heights, and three in Warren. The breaks happened September 15 in Warren and in Madison Heights. The Madison Heights deputy city manager said the Detroit Water and Sewerage department said a power outage at the North Service Center located in Troy affected the pumping system. This may have caused a change in pressure. So far, crews have made repairs in Warren and Sterling Heights. Madison Heights have repaired five breaks and continue to work. In one neighborhood in Madison Heights at Sprague and Lenox streets, residents do not have running water. Source: [http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/local\\_news/water-main-breaks-in-three-cities](http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/local_news/water-main-breaks-in-three-cities)
32. *September 14, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Missing: 254 manholes in North Miami Beach.** Over a 4-year period, the city of North Miami Beach, Florida, contracted with a construction company to build 254 manholes, 22,500 feet of water and sewer pipes, and 142 valves. No one knows when, where, or if the manholes, part of a \$2.2 million project, were ever built. The missing manholes are now part of a police investigation. A councilwoman said she was not aware of the content of a recent audit examining the procurement practices in the city's public services department. The city does not know if over 22,500 feet — more than 4 miles — of water-and-sewer pipes it paid for were ever laid. Or if the 142 valves used to shut off flow to water pipes were ever installed. The money for the project was paid to construction firm Jackson Land Development, based in Pompano Beach. Company officials did not return calls seeking comment. The mystery of the missing work arose after the city hired an engineering firm to examine the spending of the city's public services director who oversaw the water-and-sewer work now being questioned. The director resigned in May after admitting he approved purchase orders for services and materials that were not performed or delivered, according to city records. Source: <http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20100914/BREAKINGNEWS/100914005/1006/N EWS01/Missing++254+manholes+in+North+Miami+Beach>
33. *September 14, WJTV 12 Jackson* – (Mississippi) **Water crisis unfolds in parts of Madison Co.** Over 400 hundred homes in the Kearney Park area either have low water pressure or are without water. The Mississippi State Health Department has issued a Boil Water Alert for customers who get their drinking water from West Madison Utilities. County officials said the problem could last for the next few days. County leaders blame the problem on an old, faulty well off of Livingston Vernon Road outside Flora. Crews are now working to break apart the well. They will stick a camera inside to get a closer look at what is causing the problem. They suspect sand may have somehow clogged the pipes. They hope to have the video by the end of the week. Bottled water is being handed out at fire stations. The Madison County Emergency Management Agency are bringing in water tanks. Residents can fill up their buckets. Fire officials said the water crisis should not affect response time or service. Source:

[http://www2.wjtv.com/jtv/news/local/article/water\\_crisis\\_unfolds\\_in\\_parts\\_of\\_madison\\_co/195800/](http://www2.wjtv.com/jtv/news/local/article/water_crisis_unfolds_in_parts_of_madison_co/195800/)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

34. *September 15, Burlington Free Press* – (Vermont) **Whooping cough cases on the rise in Vermont.** Nine cases of the highly-contagious lung disease pertussis, better known as whooping cough, have been reported in Vermont recently, including five in the past 2 weeks. The Vermont Department of Health has alerted health care providers statewide about an increase in the number of whooping cough cases. The infection usually begins with mild upper respiratory symptoms, and an irritating cough that gradually worsens to include whooping - short periods where those afflicted with the illness have difficulty breathing, or experience vomiting. The last widespread outbreak of pertussis in Vermont occurred in 1996 and 1997, according to the health department. A total of 280 cases were identified in 1996, including 171 cases in school-aged children in 69 Vermont schools. And in 1997, there were 283 additional cases.

Source:

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20100915/NEWS07/100915021/Whooping-cough-cases-on-the-rise-in-Vermont>

35. *September 15, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma) **1 floor Of OKC hospital evacuated after smoke seen.** A spokeswoman said one floor of an Oklahoma City, Oklahoma hospital has been evacuated after smoke was seen coming from a vent. The spokeswoman said the smoke was seen September 14 on the eighth floor of Integris Southwest Medical Center. She said nine patients have been moved from that floor to a lower floor as a precaution. She said that by the time firefighters arrived, the smoke already had dissipated. She said firefighters now are searching for the source of the smoke.

Source: <http://www.fox23.com/news/state/story/1-Floor-Of-OKC-Hospital-Evacuated-After-Smoke-Seen/Tyl9c63H1kOshuAHFlliTw.csp>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Government Facilities Sector**

36. *September 15, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (Missouri) **Bomb threat forces evacuation at KCMO building.** Kansas City, Missouri, police investigated a bomb threat made at a building at 2300 Main St., September 15, but announced at 11:55 a.m. that no bomb was found. The threat was left on a voice mail at a first-floor office around 8:15 a.m., a source said. The source said the voice mail is believed to be from a disgruntled employee who was recently laid off, but police have not said anything about where the threat came from. Employees who were evacuated from the building said it houses several federal government offices including the Department of Labor and Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Workers were originally evacuated to



neighboring Union Station, but have since all been sent home for the day.

Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/25019326/detail.html>

37. *September 15, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **SRS waste disposal to cost \$1.5 billion more.** It will cost almost \$1.5 billion more than expected to empty and seal 22 underground, liquid radioactive waste tanks at Savannah River Site, according to a federal audit released September 14. A December 2008 contract between the site and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) estimated costs at \$3.2 billion. But in its report, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) said that those initial estimates were “not accurate or comprehensive” and that the project’s actual cost had risen more than \$1.4 billion, to about \$4.6 billion. “DOE’s difficulties planning for and mitigating risks in the Savannah River Site’s tank closure project appear to be a continuation of the department’s history of difficulties in contract and project management,” auditors wrote. The audit also said officials said that not all of the 22 tanks will be closed by the 2017 deadline. The GAO began its audit in June 2009, the same month that Savannah River Remediation — the company subsequently hired to handle the tank project — wrote to DOE, saying that its costs had increased nearly \$1.5 billion.  
Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/government/2010-09-15/srs-waste-disposal-cost-15-billion-more>
38. *September 14, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Army cuts back plan to blow up Colo. chemical arms.** The Army has cut back on the number of mustard agent shells it wants to destroy in closed chambers at the Pueblo Chemical Depot in Pueblo, Colorado. The Army now wants to use explosions to destroy up to 40,000 shells, down from 125,000 in an earlier plan, the Pueblo Chieftain reported September 14. The purpose of the detonation plan, which has encountered stiff opposition from some Pueblo groups, was to speed up the process. The Environmental Protection Agency asked for data and modeling that would have meant a long delay in the explosives plan, said the manager of the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program. The program oversees the destruction of chemical weapons at Pueblo and at the Blue Grass Army Depot in Kentucky. About 780,000 obsolete shells containing mustard agent are awaiting destruction at the Pueblo depot under terms of an international treaty. Most will be neutralized with water and bacteria, but the Army has always planned to use explosions in closed chambers to destroy shells that are leaking or damaged. Previously, officials estimated such shells would be number 400 to 1,000. A spokeswoman for the program said the higher estimate is “extremely approximate” and could change.  
Source: <http://cbs4denver.com/news/Army.reduces.number.2.1912665.html>
39. *September 14, TriCities.com* – (Tennessee) **Another mysterious odor at Science Hill sends teachers, student to hospital.** Yet another strange odor inside Science Hill High School’s Vocational-Technical Center in Johnson City, Tennessee sent four school employees and a student to the hospital September 10. The Johnson City city manager said the newly renovated building, which has a history of problems, is again responsible for a mysterious odor. “Some of the teachers up there are experiencing symptoms and we’re trying to determine what it is,” he said. “Hoarseness, eye irritation, there’s some commonality among symptoms and then again, there are some

very unique characteristics between the affected people.” Johnson City firefighters and Kingsport Hazardous-Materials crews returned to Science Hill High School for the third time in 5 days September 14 to again test the air inside the building. According to the city manager, finding the cause of the smell and then eliminating it is now a top priority. He said school will continue as normal as investigators try to eliminate all possible causes.

Source: <http://www2.tricitie.com/news/2010/sep/14/another-mysterious-odor-science-hill-sends-teacher-ar-505428/>

40. *September 13, KOB 4 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **FBI: Shiprock school intentionally set on fire.** A Four Corners elementary school in Shiprock, New Mexico canceled classes for the rest of the week after someone intentionally set it on fire September 12. Eyewitness News 4 got a close look at the damage September 13 at the Mesa Elementary School library in Shiprock. “The library is pretty much a total loss so it’s going to take a while,” a Central Consolidated School District (CCSD) spokesman said. It is yet another costly setback for CCSD. In August, the district said two teens were arrested for vandalizing Nataani Nez Elementary School, a school that was closed earlier this year because of budget cuts. “It’s unfortunate, but we’re thankful to the San Juan County Fire Department for their quick response,” the spokesman said, adding the damage estimate is at least \$100,000. Someone intentionally started the fire in the library, the San Juan County fire marshal said. He said flames were contained to the library, but there is smoke damage throughout the building. The FBI and Navajo Police were investigating the arson case. Nearly 450 students and staff will be out of school this week as crews try to clean up the damage. School days missed will be made up at the end of the school year; meanwhile, the district hopes classes will start back up September 20.

Source: <http://www.kob.com/article/stories/S1742001.shtml?cat=504>

For another story, see item [56](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Emergency Services Sector**

41. *September 15, Sarasota Herald Tribune* – (Florida) **Glitch keeps AT&T cell phone users in Sarasota County from using 911.** The issue preventing Sarasota County, Florida AT&T cellular customers from calling 911 in an emergency has been resolved, according to a news release. A technical problem was traced to a Verizon mux card in Bradenton and has since been repaired, a spokeswoman for the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Department, said in the new release. The technical glitch cropped up September 14, preventing some AT&T cell phones from placing or completing calls to the 911 emergency service number. AT&T cell phone users were advised to use a land-line phone or a non-AT&T cell phone to report an emergency, or dial the county’s non-emergency number.

Source: <http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20100914/BREAKING/100919891/-1/news?Title=Glitch-keeps-AT-T-cell-phone-users-from-using-911&tc=ar>

42. *September 14, NBC 4 New York* – (New Jersey) **2 state police suffer minor injuries trying to defuse explosive in Middletown.** Two members of the New Jersey State Police bomb squad were injured September 14 while trying to defuse an explosive device at a house in Middletown, New Jersey. The troopers drove themselves to Riverview Hospital, where they were treated and released. A source tells NBC New York the homeowner was injured as well when another device exploded earlier, which first brought police and the bomb squad to his house. There is no indication that this had anything to do with terrorists. While the homeowner's injuries were described as serious, the two members of the bomb squad suffered only minor injuries and were treated and released from a local hospital.  
Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/2-State-Police-Injured-Trying-to-Defuse-Explosive-Device-in-Middletown-102920199.html>
43. *September 14, Nextgov* – (National) **To text or not to text during emergencies.** As part of National Preparedness Month, a group that promotes health and safety programs has launched an initiative to tell the public to use text messaging to communicate with friends and families immediately after an emergency or disaster before calling on the phone. But some telecommunications experts warn that might not be the best advice. Safe America Foundation, a nonprofit advocacy group based in Marietta, Georgia., kicked off its Text First, Talk Second campaign, saying texting is more efficient, and during an emergency not everybody can use voice lines. "We need to become more reliant on texting," said the president and chief executive of the foundation. But other telecommunication's experts said texting is not reliable during emergency situations and voice communication should be the first option, especially when calling 911. "Texting is a technology that was never designed for emergency communication," said the chief executive of the National Emergency Number Association, which studies 911 policy, technology, operations and education issues.  
Source: [http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng\\_20100914\\_5986.php](http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100914_5986.php)

For another story, see item [57](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Information Technology Sector**

44. *September 14, Computerworld* – (International) **Mozilla halts Firefox security updates.** Mozilla has stopped providing security updates to Firefox users as it investigates a bug that caused computers to crash last week. A Computerworld blogger first reported on the problem September 5 after he tried to update older editions of Firefox on several different machines. When he asked Firefox 3.5.11, 3.6.3 and 3.6.8 if there was an update, the browsers told him no newer editions were available. Firefox's up-to-date versions are 3.5.12 and 3.6.9, which Mozilla released 1 week ago when it patched 15 vulnerabilities, 11 of them labeled "critical." Computerworld staffers reproduced the issue when they tried to update a copy of Firefox 3.6.6 on Windows Vista and Firefox 3.6.8 on a Mac. Normally, older versions of Firefox will automatically receive an update with 24-48 hours after it's released, or when the user

manually selects the “Check for Updates” from the Help menu. On September 13, Mozilla said it has stopped offering Firefox 3.5.12 and 3.6.9 because of a bug that crashed some users’ machines after they’d updated, then restarted the browser.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9185398/Mozilla\\_halts\\_Firefox\\_security\\_updates](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9185398/Mozilla_halts_Firefox_security_updates)

45. *September 14, Help Net Security* – (National) **Debunking the email privacy myth.** E-mail communications are inherently risky, and information transmitted by e-mail, including sensitive data and business-critical transactions, is more vulnerable than most users realize. “The reality is that anyone with access to a switch, router or hub between your outbox and your recipient’s inbox can read your unprotected e-mail,” said SECNAP’s CTO. “That could be your IT guy, or it could be hackers. To ensure information privacy, it’s vital that all parts of an e-mail and its attachments be encrypted from Point A to Point B, and everywhere in between. And that encryption has to work on smartphones, too.” Using a variety of smartphones for both their business and personal communications, executives and professionals regularly share confidential information over highly risky channels. Most are willing to sacrifice e-mail security and information privacy for the benefits of speed and convenience. “That’s a bad idea,” said the CTO. “Cyberspace is filled with individuals constantly on the hunt for information to exploit, and the easier it is, the more vulnerable you are.” A growing body of regulation in the United States requires organizations to safeguard the personally identifiable information (PII) of their customers, patients, vendors, students, employees, investors, and other stakeholders. Specific e-mail encryption requirements are now included in HITECH, HIPAA and GLBA regulations, and at least two states have also mandated encryption as a privacy measure.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9868>

46. *September 14, The Register* – (International) **Microsoft closes hole used to attack industrial plants.** Microsoft has credited security partners at Kaspersky Lab and Symantec for helping to close a critical Windows vulnerability that was being exploited by a sophisticated worm that has attacked industrial plants around the world. The bug in the Windows Print Spooler, which was one of at least 11 vulnerabilities Microsoft patched September 14, was under active attack by the Stuxnet worm, a sophisticated piece of malware that penetrated factories and other industrial plants. While it exploited a recently patched bug to infect PCs, it then attacked the print spooler bug and two other flaws to spread to new machines on local networks. A senior program manager for the Microsoft Security Response Center said the worm was so complicated that his team benefited from the analysis of outside researchers, who he said provided invaluable help in understanding how it worked. Both Kaspersky and Symantec are members of MAPP, short for the Microsoft Active Protections Program, under which about 70 partners share information about known vulnerabilities before they are made public. The advanced details allow members to develop signatures for anti-virus software and intrusion prevention systems and to pool research. The flawed print spooler, which does not correctly validate user permissions, allows remote attackers to take complete control of Windows systems. It is rated critical on Windows XP because

the operating system enables a guest account for anonymous users by default. It is rated important on more recent Windows versions because users must manually set them up. Once Stuxnet gained a foothold on a network, it exploited the vulnerability to spread to additional machines. It also used two additional Windows vulnerabilities that Microsoft has yet to patch. Company representatives declined to provide details about them – other than to say they allowed attackers to elevate system privileges – pending a patch. According to IDG News, Stuxnet has infected 14 plants.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/14/microsoft\\_september\\_patch\\_tuesday/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/14/microsoft_september_patch_tuesday/)

47. *September 14, The H Security* – (International) **Web sites distribute malware via hacked OpenX servers.** The vulnerability in the free OpenX ad server made public September 13 is already being actively exploited to distribute malware. According to press reports, a server that provides The Pirate Bay with ad banners was hacked, but browsers that use Google's Safe Browsing API to reach the site are warned that it has dangerous content. A similar thing happened to the humoristic site esarcasm.com, and the entertainment portal AfterDawn's OpenX AdServer also fell victim to an attack. In the latter case, only a few files were damaged, preventing ads from being sent out altogether. According to the OpenX project, DDoS attacks have also since occurred on the Web server, the blog, and the forum. Nonetheless, all of the services are currently still reachable. It is not clear why these attacks are taking place. At present, there is no warning on the project's Web site or at the OpenX blog about the vulnerability in the software. The problem is the result of a component integrated in OpenX's video plugin, from a third-party, which allows images to be uploaded. In December 2009, the module "ofc\_upload\_image.php" was introduced, and it does not check who is uploading what to the server. As a result, executable scripts can be saved and executed on the server.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Web-sites-distribute-malware-via-hacked-OpenX-servers-1079099.html>

48. *September 14, Yahoo News* – (International) **Jailbreak iOS 4.1: Hackers quickly find an exploit for 4.1.** Hours after Apple released its iOS 4.1 update, coders have identified an exploit in the operating system's boot ROM. First announced by iPhone Dev-Team member pod2g on Twitter, it has since been confirmed by other hackers. Usually, Apple moves pretty quickly to close loopholes to prevent jailbreaking. But that is because previous jailbreak holes usually exploited bugs in the operating system. Apple engineers could shut down the jailbreak with a simple software update. This exploit, however, is boot ROM-based, and targets such a low-level part of the OS that Apple would have to make significant changes in the hardware to stop it. As the odds of Apple recalling all sold units and replacing them are nil, this hack would probably work on any iDevice shipped since November, whether that's the iPhone 4, iPhone 3GS, iPad, or the fourth-gen iPod Touch. In an ironic twist, it appears the vulnerable boot ROM was introduced in order to shut down an earlier exploit on the iPhone 3GS. There were rumors 1 month ago about Apple stealthily adding a nonconductive coating to the metal band on the sides of the iPhone 4 to fix the antenna's death-grip problem. Apple will probably do the same, quietly changing the hardware to close the exploit.



But any device manufactured before September 14 will be fair game.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/digitaltrends/20100914/tc\\_digitaltrends/jailbreakios41](http://news.yahoo.com/s/digitaltrends/20100914/tc_digitaltrends/jailbreakios41)

49. *September 14, DarkReading* – (International) **‘App store for exploits’ could reduce enterprise vulnerabilities.** A proposed free market for the buying and selling of attacks that exploit specific software vulnerabilities — sounds more like a threat than a security aid. Yet the brainchild of security testing firm NSS Labs could just be what the doctor ordered to help enterprises eliminate their vulnerabilities, security experts said. The “app store for exploits” would allow security researchers and developers to sell validated exploits to known security professionals. NSS Labs plans to test every exploit in the marketplace to make sure each one works and does not carry malicious code. In addition, the company will check every buyer to prevent criminals from using the marketplace to fuel their own activities. The exploits will be in a standard format, making it easier for them to be added to the Metasploit Framework, and only attacks on previously reported vulnerabilities will be allowed. “We are not selling zero-days — this is not the Pirate Bay,” said the president of NSS Labs. “One of the key things we are offering in our scenario here is that all of the exploits that go into the store will be validated.” For enterprise security teams, this new, darker analog to Apple’s App Store could help immensely, said one security specialist at a Fortune 100 firm, who spoke on condition of anonymity. “It is putting some parity on the playing field between the bad guys and the good guys,” the security specialist said. “The bad guys have had this sort of capability for a while, and now the good guys can have it as well.”

Source: [http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability\\_management/security/app-security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227400399&subSection=Application+Security](http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability_management/security/app-security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227400399&subSection=Application+Security)

50. *September 14, Help Net Security* – (International) **Growing dangers of digital music and movies.** A growing number of cyber threats are associated with the popularity of online music and videos, according to a McAfee report. Researchers found that adding the word “free” to searches increases the risk of landing on a malicious site. McAfee also revealed that cybercriminals hide malicious content in music and movie-related sites, and even fan clubs sites. In recent years, as consumers have increasingly watched video or downloaded music online, cybercriminals have shifted their attacks to include more dangerous Web sites, malicious ads and video viewing tools. According to comScore, more than 177 million U.S. Internet users watched online video in June, up from 157 million 1 year ago. As downloading of digital content has increased, so have the dangers associated with it. The research found that adding the word “free” to a search for music ringtones resulted in a 300 percent increase in the riskiness of sites returned by major search engines in English. The word “free” in other languages yielded similar results. Searching for “MP3s” added risk to music search results, while searching for “free MP3s” made those searches even riskier. Even when a consumer indicated that they wanted to pay for the MP3 in their search, results still sent them to pirated content. McAfee also discovered thousands of malicious and highly suspicious URLs associated with fan clubs or comments made on social media sites, such as YouTube and Twitter.

Source: [http://www.net-security.org/malware\\_news.php?id=1463](http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1463)



For another story, see item [17](#)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto:sos@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Communications Sector

51. *September 15, Decatur Daily* – (Alabama) **S.W. Decatur phone outage to last for days.** An AT&T contractor cut two major phone lines September 13 that have left parts of Southwest Decatur, Alabama, including Brookhaven Middle School, without phone service. An AT&T Alabama spokeswoman said the loss of phone service, and possibly some Internet service, should last about 3 days. The outage covers the Brookhaven neighborhood between Eighth and 14th streets, and Danville Road and Central Parkway in Southwest Decatur. She said the contractor was placing additional fiber to expand the company's network at Fourth Avenue and Eighth Street Southwest. The cut occurred September 13 at about 1:30 p.m. Brookhaven's assistant principal said school administrators have cell phones if they need to call out.  
Source: <http://decaturdaily.com/stories/SW-Decatur-phone-outage-to-last-for-days,68281>
52. *September 14, Anderson Independent-Mail* – (South Carolina) **Phone service interrupted in parts of Abbeville County, later restored.** Service for phone numbers with the prefix 459 was out of order for several hours in some areas of Abbeville County, South Carolina September 14. The service was restored at 5:17 p.m., a communications specialist for the South Carolina Emergency Alert System said. The system does not know what caused the problem, he said.  
Source: <http://www.independentmail.com/news/2010/sep/14/phone-service-interrupted-parts-abbeville-county/>
53. *September 14, Telecommunications Online* – (International) **Japan launches first GPS satellite.** Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) launched the "MICHIBIKI" satellite, Japan's first GPS satellite, at 8:17pm (JST) September 11 from the Tanegashima Space Center. According to a release from JAXA, the launch went smoothly and, at approximately 28 minutes and 27 seconds after liftoff, the separation of the MICHIBIKI from the H-IIA Launch Vehicle was confirmed. This is the first in a series of three satellite launches that will provide improved navigation signals for all of the Japanese islands. Like a number of countries, including Russia and China, Japan is hoping to reduce or eliminate their reliance on the NAVSTAR GPS network, controlled by the United States. Similar launches are already planned in Russia, China, and India.

Source:

[http://www.telecomengine.com/techzones/wireless/article.asp?HH\\_ID=AR\\_6572](http://www.telecomengine.com/techzones/wireless/article.asp?HH_ID=AR_6572)

For more stories, see items [41](#) and [43](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

54. *September 15, AOL News* – (International) **Eiffel tower reopens after bomb threat, evacuation.** Some 2,000 people were evacuated from around the Paris, France landmark, The Eiffel Tower, because of a bomb threat from an anonymous caller September 14. Explosives experts scoured the tower and Champs de Mars park overnight but found nothing suspicious. No one has claimed responsibility for the threats, but the French government had issued an increased alert about possible threats from al-Qaida in August and the first half of September. The false alarm also came on the same day France's Senate voted overwhelmingly to ban full Islamic veils in public. No additional security measures were in place the following day, several news outlets reported. The threat came in a phone call just after dark to a private company that runs security at the tower. Hours later, the Saint-Michel train station, the site of a deadly attack in 1995, was also briefly evacuated after a similar threat. Nothing was found there either.

Source: <http://www.aolnews.com/world/article/eiffel-tower-reopens-after-bomb-threat-evacuation/19634279>

55. *September 14, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Illinois) **Arson suspected in Cahokia church fire.** Church officials said they were told by fire investigators that arson is suspected in an overnight blaze that destroyed a partially completed worship facility in Cahokia, Illinois, September 12. A spokesman with the Illinois State Fire Marshal's Office said that he could not comment beyond confirming that the incident is under investigation. No injuries were reported.

Source: [http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article\\_b6aeafd4-3287-5387-8d25-01465de25cda.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_b6aeafd4-3287-5387-8d25-01465de25cda.html)

56. *September 14, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Headless body found near Ill. school after explosion is reported.** In the dead of night September 14, an explosion ripped through Fitzsimmons Park in Evanston, Illinois, shaking houses and waking residents blocks away. Responding to calls of a possible blown transformer, police searched but found nothing. More than an hour later that night, a resident who was walking his dog found a headless body. Nearby Nichols Middle School was forced to close, but some students still showed up for classes. Parents, children and school buses were waved off and sent away. After disabling the bomb, investigators were left to try to determine why the man, who was identified as a 21-year-old, had two explosive devices. Police said the male "was known" to another police agency in Illinois, but offered no details. They evacuated residents from an apartment building a block away where the male lived, and said they were working with the FBI to examine information stored on his

computer. At the same time, some parents of Nichols students said they were angry it took 4 hours from the time of the first explosion for them to be notified. While the investigation continues, the middle school will remain closed September 15.

Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4500985>

57. *September 14, Longmont Times-Call* – (Colorado) **WMD drill set for Thursday at the Boulder County Fairgrounds.** The Boulder County Fairgrounds in Longmont, Colorado will be a disaster zone September 16 but it is only a drill. The city is hosting a regional hazardous-materials response exercise based on a weapons of mass destruction scenario from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the fairgrounds. “The lessons learned from the exercise will allow the participating agencies to be better prepared for a large scale incident,” the city emergency manager said in a press release. Along with Longmont agencies, the event will include personnel and equipment from local bomb squads, hazardous materials teams, the Mountain View Fire Department, Boulder Rural Fire, Boulder Fire Department, Loveland Fire/Hazmat, Boulder County Sheriff’s Office, Boulder County Public Health, and Colorado State Patrol.

Source: [http://www.timescall.com/news\\_story.asp?ID=23480](http://www.timescall.com/news_story.asp?ID=23480)

For another story, see item [2](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

58. *September 15, Kern Valley Sun* – (California) **Containment of Canyon Fire expected Friday.** The Canyon Fire started just before 2 p.m. in California September 12. By 2:40 p.m., U.S. Forest Service officials reported flames had jumped Hwy. 178 east of Democrat Hot Springs. As of the morning September 14, the fire was estimated at 3,400 acres, with 10 percent containment. Full containment is expected by September 17, officials said. On September 12, the California Highway Patrol was forced to close a portion of Hwy 178 but it was re-opened with one-lane restrictions by mid-morning September 13. Campgrounds accessible by the Old Kern Canyon Rd., Sandy Flat, Hobo, Miracle Hot Springs, Remington Hot Springs, Black Gulch South, and all river raft launch sites were evacuated and remain unofficially closed. Old Kern Canyon Rd. is closed indefinitely. Approximately 626 personnel from Kern County Fire, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management are working the fire. No injuries or structure loss have been reported, and the cause of the fire is under investigation.

Source:

<http://www.kvsun.com/articles/2010/09/14/news/doc4c8fc6fdaeb63148983978.txt>

59. *September 14, Fresno Bee* – (California) **Fire in national parks continues to grow.** The Sheep fire in Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks in California has grown to 5,765 acres, park officials said. As of September 8, the fire was at 4,857 acres. Lightning sparked the blaze July 16 in Kings Canyon and spread into Sequoia around August 19. Another blaze, the Marvin fire, has burned 15 acres in Sequoia National Forest at high elevation in the Jennie Lakes Wilderness. The Don Cecil Trail

in Kings Canyon and Kanawyer Trail on U.S. Forest Service land are closed. The Forest Service has issued a temporary area closure for the Sheep fire on the Hume Lake Ranger District between Horse Corral Meadow and the Kings River, and from Boulder Creek east to the boundary with Kings Canyon National Park.

Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/2010/09/14/2078172/fire-in-national-parks-continues.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Dams Sector**

60. *September 14, San Bernardino County Sun* – (California) **County to spend \$300K on dam.** San Bernardino County, California, will spend more than \$300,000 this year on upgrades and a stability study of Lake Gregory dam. The study and upgrades are necessary to meet state safety standards, officials said. If those standards are not met, the county will not be able to bring the lake up to its full water level next spring. San Bernardino firm Tetra Tech will perform a seismic stability study of the dam. Similar studies have been done several times in the past 20 years, but the studies did not fully comply with state regulations, meaning the county earlier this year had to remove metal boards that raise the level of the lake by several feet. The dam upgrades — the county must install equipment that will shorten the time it takes to drain the lake after an earthquake — will be costlier: a price tag of \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Source: [http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci\\_16074680](http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci_16074680)

61. *September 14, KXTV 10 Sacramento* – (California) **Army Corps of Engineers inspects Sacramento region levees.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers September 14 announced results of inspections it supervised on some Sacramento, California, area levees and the findings were not positive. Using \$4.6 million in federal stimulus funds, the Corps hired engineering firms to inspect 10 levee systems in the Sacramento, Stockton, Yuba City, and Marysville areas for safety. The levees were rated as either minimally acceptable or unacceptable. Problems ranged from encroachments (unapproved or improper use of levee property), erosion, slope stability, seepage, and animal control. “There are issues that we have rated unacceptable and determined they are likely to prevent the system from performing as intended,” said an U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokeswoman. The Corps looked at levees in the most at-risk areas first. Inspections of levees in Colusa, West Sacramento and Stockton were ongoing and expected to be completed this coming winter. The inspections focused largely on issues like vegetation on levee banks, erosion, or levee slopes that are unstable. In response to the report, the California Department of Water Resources director said his agency would continue to work with the Corps to address flood risk. The Corps has scheduled inspections of 16 other levee systems.

Source: <http://www.news10.net/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=95560&catid=2>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

**About the reports** - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

### **Contact Information**

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to [cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov) or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at 703-872-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to [support@govdelivery.com](mailto:support@govdelivery.com).

---

### **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

### **Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer**

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.